

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Alan E. Kopecki (Reg. # 25813) on 4/26/10.

The application has been amended as follows:

- In line 26 of claim 1, "result of its tensioned shape." has been changed to -
- result of the tension created by the camming action. --.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 4-9 and 11 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims are allowable because prior art fails to teach a disc saw blade with the chain when driven, moves from a neutral position in which the chain is loosely mounted around the circumference of the disc and the projecting part of the respective driving link is loosely inserted between two adjacent radial projections, to a working position in which the chain is tensioned around the circumference of the disc and the cam surface on the respective driving link is in contact with the associated radial projection, wherein the cam surface on each driving link is designed to cause the saw chain to be displaced

generally radially outwards along a respective radial projection by a camming action of the radial projection during rotation of the disk to take-up the play and tension the saw chain in a way that the chain is held onto the disc as a result of the tensioned shape, in combination with other limitations set forth in claims 1 & 23, and with the other limitations of the dependent claims.

Re claim 1, Carlton teaches disc saw blade 60 with a saw chain 76 mounted around the circumference of a circular disk 70, the saw chain 76 is provided with driving links 78, connecting links 80 and cutting links 82, wherein the chain 76 is guided by means of the driving links 78 in at least one chain groove. It should be noted that the groove is formed by plates 66, 68, and disc 72 per Fig.4 as explained in col. 3, lines 43-46. Carlton also teaches that the chain 76 is arranged around the periphery of the disk 70, against the bottom 74 of the groove, a projecting part 78a of each driving link that projects radially inwards can make contact, in that the bottom 74 of the groove has radial projections 86 distributed around the circumference and the driving link has a cam surface 88 on the part 78a that projects radially inwards for interaction with the respective radial projection 86. Frederickson teaches that the saw chain is mounted on the disc 14 to provide play in the circumferential direction of the disc, and wherein a radius (R_{sb}) to the bottom of the groove of each driving link 10-11 is shorter than a radius (R_{id}) to the projecting part (as teeth of the sprocket per Fig. 4) measured along the same radial line as said radius (R_{sb}) and shorter than a radius (R_u) to a radially outer end of each projection.

However, Neither Carlton nor Frederickson nor Bueneman or in combination thereof, teaches a disc saw blade with the chain when driven, moves from a neutral position in which the chain is loosely mounted around the circumference of the disc and the projecting part of the respective driving link is loosely inserted between two adjacent radial projections, to a working position in which the chain is tensioned around the circumference of the disc and the cam surface on the respective driving link is in contact with the associated radial projection, wherein the cam surface on each driving link is designed to cause the saw chain to be displaced generally radially outwards along a respective radial projection by a camming action of the radial projection during rotation of the disk to take-up the play and tension the saw chain in a way that the chain is held onto the disc as a result of the tensioned shape.

None of these and the prior arts of record references by themselves or in combination with the other prior art cited teach the claimed invention set forth in claim 1 and 23.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Ackley (2725083), Ehlen (3269431) and Harfst (6748840) teach various types of saw chain and drive mechanism showing looseness in neutral position.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BHARAT C. PATEL whose telephone number is (571)270-3078. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, alt. Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on 24502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Bharat C Patel/
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4/26/10.

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